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Dated: January 24, 2004

Signature: [Signature]

(Diane Blevins)

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In the application of:

Lingxun DUAN

Serial No.: 09/869,445

Filing Date: June 26, 2001

For: PRODUCTION OF RECOMBINANT
MONELLIN USING
METHYLOTROPHIC YEAST
EXPRESSION SYSTEM

Examiner: K. Katcheves

Group Art Unit: 1636

AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

This is in response to an Office Action herein mailed September 26, 2003, time for a response to which was set to expire December 26, 2003. Submitted herewith is a petition and fee for a one-month extension of time, thereby extending the time to file a response until January 26, 2004. Accordingly, this response is timely filed. The considered claims, claims 1-49 were rejected. Careful consideration has been given to the grounds for rejection, and the following amendment and discussion are offered in response. Reconsideration is respectfully requested.

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